



BONHOMME RICHARD'S ALMANAC

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"I have not yet begun to fight!"



AT&T MOVE MEANS HIGHER BILLS FOR MANY

By Stephen Labaton

With great fanfare last week, AT&T and the Federal Communications Commission announced that millions of telephone customers would see lower bills as the company passed on savings from a government-ordered reduction in the fees that long-distance companies pay to local phone companies.

But on the day of the announcement, AT&T also filed documents with the commission that said the company would actually be raising most of

the per-minute charges on the basic accounts of millions of customers who make few calls.

Moreover, AT&T said this week that it would be raising the monthly fee for some of its popular One Rate plans to \$5 from \$3.

Consumer groups said on that AT&T and officials at the FCC had misled consumers by failing to disclose the rate increases when they announced the rate cuts last Wednesday.

FCC officials said they had known generally of AT&T's proposed increases but that they were not troubled by them because the company agreed to send a letter to customers urging them to consider switching to lower-priced plans. The commission has no power to block the rate changes.

AT&T and FCC officials last week trumpeted as "historic" the company's decision to drop its \$3-a-month minimum fee charged to customers who make few or no long distance calls which amounts to more than a third of the company's residential subscribers. But because the new per-minute fees go up every day except Sunday, the consumer groups say bills will rise for many low-volume callers.

A customer who made 45 minutes of long distance calls on Saturday under the new plan would pay \$13.05, because calls on Saturday rise to 29 cents a minute, plus taxes and fees.



MM1 Mike Romero of Engineering Department gives a "thumbs up" signalling that everything is going OK with repairs to the boiler in the Forward Main Machinery room. He replaced the valve and the fuel safety shut-off device on one of the boiler's burners. (Photo By JO1(SW) Robert W. Garnand.)

NATIONAL NEWS

MEDICARE TO COVER COST OF CLINICAL TRIALS

By Robert Pear

President Clinton will order Medicare to start covering most of the costs of clinical trials testing the value of new drugs and medical treatments for millions of elderly and disabled people, administration officials said.

Mr. Clinton plans to take the action by issuing an executive memorandum. People with chronic diseases have long sought such a policy change. White House officials said the change was needed to increase the number of elderly people who participate in studies of ways to prevent, detect and treat all sorts of ailments, including cancer, heart disease, stroke, Alzheimer's, arthritis, diabetes and eye disorders.

The Medicare statute has been widely interpreted to bar reimbursement for the routine medical care that beneficiaries need when they participate in clinical trials. Many private insurers have also denied coverage, saying the treatments were

experimental or "investigational." The federal policy is significant not only because Medicare covers 39 million Americans, but also because many private insurers follow its example in deciding what to cover. Researchers often complain that they cannot find enough patients for clinical research, in part because Medicare reimbursement is uncertain.

Researchers say it often takes three to five years to enroll enough participants in a clinical trial to make the results scientifically valid and statistically meaningful.

STOCK MARKET

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 79.73 points to 10,735.57. The Standard & Poor's 500-stock index fell 9.79 points to 1,457.84, and the Nasdaq composite index fell 65.39 points to 3,756.37.

BONHOMME RICHARD'S ALMANAC

Capt. Robert J. Connelly, Commanding Officer

Lt. Cmdr. Laurie Rye, Public Affairs Officer

JOC (SW/AW) Stephen K. Robinson, Asst. Public Affairs Officer

JO1 (SW) Robert W. Garnand, Editor

JO3 Laura C. Wiggins, Staff Writer

Lt1 Jimmie Claspell, Print Shop

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FRIDAY'S SITE TV SCHEDULE

CHANNEL 2

1030 WHEEL OF FORTUNE

1100 ON DANGEROUS GROUND

1630 KING OF THE HILL

1700 THAT 70'S SHOW

1730 JEOPARDY

1800 NAVY SEALS

2000 GI JANE

2200 JACKIE BROWN

CHANNEL 6

1030 SABRINA

1100 SISTER ACT 2

1630 MR NICE GUY

1800 THE SHINING

2000 THE BEACH

2200 THE NEGOTIATOR

TV SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
DUE TO OPERATIONAL COMMITMENTS

NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ARABS AND ISRAEL TO REOPEN TALKS

By Deborah Sontag

Israeli and Palestinian negotiators will resume talks on a permanent peace accord next week in the Washington area, and Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, will meet with President Clinton there next Wednesday, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said Tuesday.

The negotiations in Washington, as well as Arafat's meeting with Clinton, are intended to set the stage for a three-way, retreat-style summit meeting in the near future. As Albright shuttled between Israeli and Palestinian leaders Tuesday, she continued her efforts to kick the slow-moving talks into a higher gear, one that conforms better to the finite timetable of the Clinton administration.

Albright's diplomacy took place against the backdrop of Israel's volatile political scene. As she met with Prime Minister Ehud Barak in Jerusalem Tuesday evening, a right-wing bill to dissolve the Parliament and hold new elections was gaining steady support, including some backing among parties inside the ruling coalition. Some of the discontent grows out of financial disputes in the government, and some represents opposition to the peace negotiations.

A vote on Wednesday will not bring down the government, even if successful; the bill is preliminary and requires three more hearings. But it could end up break-

ing apart the governing coalition and forcing Barak to reshape it.

A new political lineup could shrink Barak's base of support in Parliament for any agreement, since the swing parties would have swung out of his broad-based government and into the right wing opposition. The political turmoil could hobble the prime minister at the start of a period of intense negotiations, if only by distracting him.

SENATOR RELEASES MONEY FOR U.N.

By New York Times

Sen. Judd Gregg, R-N.H., who had blocked hundreds of millions of dollars approved by Congress for U.N. peacekeeping missions, agreed Tuesday to release \$50 million for peacekeepers in Sierra Leone, saying that he had forced a shift in foreign policy.

Gregg had opposed the peace agreement that had given a share of power to the Sierra Leone rebels. The Clinton administration sent Gregg a letter saying that the rebels' leader, Foday Sankoh, should have no political future.

SUHARTO LOSES LIBEL CASE

By New York Times

Dealing another blow to Indonesia's former leader, Suharto, a court ruled Tuesday that Time magazine did not libel him in an article that said Suharto and his family had amassed a \$15 billion fortune in his years in power.

SPORTS

NBA SCORE:

LA LAKERS 104 INDIANA 87
(LAKERS LEAD THE SERIES 1-0)

BASEBALL SCORES:

NY YANKEES	8	MONTREAL	1
BOSTON	4	FLORIDA	3
DETROIT	2	PITTSBURGH	1
CLEVELAND	4	MILWAUKEE	2
MINNESOTA	3	HOUSTON	1

BE CAREFUL IN FOREIGN PORTS

As we pull into foreign ports you must very careful when utilizing your ATM card. If you request a withdraw from your savings, the money may come out of checking. If you do not have enough money in your savings account to cover your checks, checks will begin to bounce. Look at your receipt and verify the transaction. Keep your receipt and verify the transaction against your bank statement.

When buying items on a credit card you must also be careful. We all have been getting good deals on gift items, but when you get your bill it may show a different amount. This is because the exchange rate is subject to change. Ensure you are not being charged twice, get a clear understanding of the rate exchange, and question any printed item on the receipt.

If you find a discrepancy on your receipts, or have used your ATM Card, and are unsure of what transaction took place, contact your Department Command Financial Specialist right away for assistance in resolving the issue. Or you can contact your bank to ensure no errors have occurred on any transactions.

Again, ALWAYS keep your receipts. If you have any questions, contact ITC(SW/AW) Peerenboom at 7696.



Revolutionary Gator Of The Day



IS3 (select) James M. Kim

Department: Supply

Division: LSA

Hometown:

Hacienda Heights, Calif.

Qualifications: Laundry Service

Attendant/ VIP Laundryman

Kim currently works as a Laundry Service Attendant. His jobs include washing, drying, and pressing laundry. Kim takes pride in his service to the crew. He successfully struck into the IS rating and was selected as an IS3 off of the March 00 exam cycle. He will be transferring to Operations Dept, OZ Division in the near future.